

## ERIK VAN LIESHOUT

Annet Gelink Gallery proudly presents its first solo exhibition of Erik van Lieshout (1968, Deurne). In his multimedia installations Van Lieshout raises contemporary social-political themes such as the multicultural society, the position of minorities and the consumer society. He approaches these issues from a personal view by making himself the subject. Because of this approach Van Lieshout's installations are both a personal document and a critical rendering of the developments in current society.

On arrival the visitor enters the magical, noisy world of Erik van Lieshout. The gallery is occupied by an architecture characteristic for Van Lieshout, dominated by wood, lace curtains and a video projection. Red, yellow, blue, black and white refer to the modernistic ideals of *De Stijl* and Mondrian.

The film in the installation, *JANUS* (2012, 51 minutes), is about a man from the working-class neighbourhood Rotterdam-Zuid named Janus; the contents of his house were bought by Van Lieshout after his death. Van Lieshout plunges into Janus's life by filming his family, neighbours and fellow-townsmen. By means of interviews he makes a connection with art-political subjects such as the role of the artist and the reduction on art grants. 'Does it bother you as well that the art grants are stopping?', Van Lieshout asks Janus's neighbour residents in Rotterdam-Zuid. The pictures of Janus's environment are interlaced with fragments of Van Lieshout's studio, where a personal interview with actor Marien Jongewaard takes place. Questions such as 'What is my role as an artist?' and 'What do I need?' return in existential monologues of Van Lieshout, interpreted by Jongewaard. Against the backdrop of the economic crisis Van Lieshout focuses himself at his own self-image as an artist and at what is expected of an artist.

In the back of the room hangs a 5 meters wide charcoal drawing in which Van Lieshout has depicted himself in situations in Rotterdam-Zuid, on the street and in Janus's house. In big letters the word CONTACT is written. The Bakery features the installation *Ministry of Subculture* (2012) – a group of works on paper with the subject 'elite/non-elite', an associative series of absurdities in which the Royal family, Marlene Dumas and Pim Fortuyn are effortlessly interchanged with pin-up girls and modernistic architecture. Just like Mondrian, Van Lieshout analyses ordinary reality by constructing, breaking up and reconstructing images. Looking for new forms to express 'that which you... feel'.

Erik van Lieshout lives and works in Rotterdam. His work has been exhibited worldwide, e.g. big solo exhibitions at the MMK – Museum für Moderne Kunst in Frankfurt (on view until 13 January 2013), the Hayward Gallery in London (2011) and Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen in Rotterdam (2006). The first big presentation in a Dutch museum took place at *Couplet 2* in the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam in 1994. Van Lieshout participated in numerous international exhibitions, among which at Manifesta 9, Genk; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Museion, Bolzano; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; Museum Ludwig, Cologne; S.M.A.K., Gent; Istanbul Museum of Modern Art; BAWAG Contemporary, Vienna; Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam; MuHKA, Antwerp; New Museum, New York; Kunsthaus Zurich; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; Wrong Gallery, Tate Modern, London; ICA London; ZKM, Karlsruhe; Gwangju Biennale; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Centre d'Art Contemporain, Geneva; Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo; Groninger Museum, Groningen.

The video projection *JANUS* is made with the support of the Netherlands Film Fund.

**Yael Bartana** The opening of Yael Bartana's solo exhibition at Secession in Vienna will take place on 6 December. The exhibition is on view until 10 February. **Erik van Lieshout** In the group exhibition The New Public at Museion in Bolzano are shown new drawings of Erik van Lieshout until 13 January 2013. **Meiro Koizumi** In connection with his nomination for the Future Generation Art Prize 2012, the work of Meiro Koizumi will be shown during the exhibition of the 21 nominated artists. This exhibition is on view from 3 November until 6 January at the PinchukArtCentre in Kiev (UA). The winning artist will be announced on 7 December. **Roger Hiorns** The solo exhibition of Roger Hiorns will be on view until 24 February 2013 at the Hallen in Haarlem. **David Maljkovic** At the Abbe museum in Eindhoven is on view the solo exhibition Sources in the Air until 27 January. Afterwards the exhibition will travel to BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art in Gateshead (UK) and GAMeC - Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea in Bergamo (Italy). **Ryan Gander** The solo exhibition Esperluette Artists' Library is open for visitors until 7 January 2013 in Palais de Tokyo (Paris). **Wilfredo Prieto's** newest publication The Emperor's New Clothes is now available at the Annet Gelink Gallery and has been published in 75 editions through a collaboration between the Annet Gelink Gallery and Nagueras Blanchard. Each example has been signed by the artist. **Ed van der Elsken** The publication Look. Ed!, in connection with the exhibition at the Annet Gelink Gallery with the identical title (from 8 September until 13 October 2012), is available at the Annet Gelink Gallery and several bookshops.